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File No. IN01157K-US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Saksena, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/909,062

Group Art Unit: 1648

Filed: July 19, 2001

Examiner: D. Wortman

For: NOVEL PEPTIDES AS NS3-SERINE PROTEASE INHIBITORS OF HEPATITIS C
VIRUS

Preliminary Amendment

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Notice to Comply mailed December 19, 2002 in the above-referenced Application. Enclosed is a Marked-Up Amendment showing all changes made to the specification, an extension of time, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), for responding to the Notice up to and including February 19, 2003 and a Sequence Listing (paper copy and diskette (CRF)).

Amendment

In the specification:

(1) Please replace the title of Example 1, at the top of page 101, with:

--Example I: Solid Phase Synthesis of Ac-EEVVP-nV(CO)-G-OH (SEQ ID NO: 1) -

A1

(2) Please replace the last full paragraph of page 106 with:

-- Step III. Synthesis of Fmoc-Val-Pro-nVal(dpsc)-Gly-PAM resin (SEQ ID NO:

2)

A2